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OP/ED



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A&E



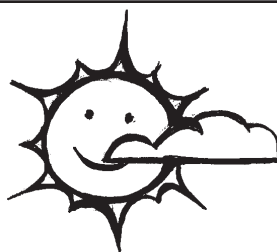
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Coach Krueger busts some
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WEATHER



Partly cloudy
Saturday and Sunday

Saturday (Full Moon)

▲ High 66

▼ Low 53

Wind: S at 13 mph

Sunday

▲ High 72

▼ Low 46

Wind: W at 8 mph

Source: weather.com

New amendment threatens gay marriage and civil unions

Katie Buchanan
for *The Lawrentian*

A new amendment to the Wisconsin Constitution that's on the ballot for the Nov. 7 election is stirring up quite a controversy around the Lawrence campus, as well as the state of Wisconsin.

This amendment provides that "only a marriage between one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage" in Wisconsin. It also provides that a "legal status identical or substantially similar to that of marriage for unmarried individuals shall not be valid or recognized in this state."

Recently, Gay, Lesbian, Other or Whatever has been collaborating with Fair Wisconsin, an organization petitioning Wisconsin voters to vote "no" on the amendment.

Senior Emily Saltzman, an active member of GLOW, states that GLOW has been getting involved by "setting up canvassing in the Fox Valley area and putting together a list of student volunteers."

"Gay marriage is currently illegal," says Saltzman. "But if the amendment passes, it will be in the Wisconsin Constitution and any attempt to make it legal in the future will be even more difficult."

"But there's a second part to this amendment — no civil unions will be recognized," Saltzman continued, meaning civil unions, rights under common law marriage, or domestic partnerships between any couple, gay or straight, would be considered illegal.

Ben Rinehart, Assistant Professor of Art and Art History and an openly gay man, was recently married in Canada.

"The institution of marriage is changing," states Rinehart. "America is realizing that marriage isn't set up per-

fectly for tax purposes, therefore more and more people are entering into civil unions or domestic partnerships."

Similarly, Saltzman notes that "all civil union tax benefits and social security benefits would disappear with the passing of this amendment."

Most Lawrence students don't even know this amendment is up for vote. "I haven't really looked into this issue, but now that I know about it, I will," states sophomore Ted Toussaint. "I think that all people are equal despite their sexual orientation and that we should all have equal rights."

Carolyn Grieco, a Catholic Christian, expresses confusion about the new amendment. "My understanding was that marriage was more or less a religious sacrament where a civil union was marriage without the church," says the junior.

"I think it shouldn't be passed," concludes Grieco after much deliberation. "I don't think it's wrong for two people of the same sex to be together."

When asked about what the church would say about same-sex marriage, Grieco asserted, "It depends on who you ask. People use the Bible to justify all kinds of things; some of them may be right and others are clearly not. Since I'm not a church authority, I don't know."

Why is this amendment being voted on now? "I think people are scared because the gay community is becoming more prominent in the media," states Rinehart. Saltzman agrees. "GLOW and Fair Wisconsin are trying to educate voters and make clear what a vote yes means and what a vote no means."

Polls open Nov. 7. For more information, visit www.fairwisconsin.com or attend a GLOW meeting held every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. in the GLOW house at 217 N. Union.

Breaking ground at Björklunden starts today

Radhika Garland
for *The Lawrentian*

Lawrence's Björklunden lodge will undergo a facelift starting Friday, Oct. 6 to meet the expectations of a growing community that includes both Lawrence University and the residents of Door County.

The new addition represents a coordinated effort by Lawrence faculty to enhance the students' learning experiences. Inadvertently, it has also been a means of bringing the Lawrence Trustees closer together, as its costs have soared past the \$4 million mark.

This afternoon at 4 p.m. the opening festivities for the Björklunden addition will commence. At the ceremony, representatives of Lawrence University and the steering committee — coordinators of the fundraising campaign — will be present.

Robert Schaupp, who is a 1951 Lawrence graduate and the president of a profitable investment company, will preside. He is also a member of the college's Board of Trustees, and had faithfully chaired the campaign for the new wing.

The campaign began two years ago when faculty first brought up

the need for larger and more diverse facilities to accommodate every student group or academic department. Fundraising began later that year.

Since that time, a combination of Björklunden enthusiasts, Trustees, and an equally significant number of Door County residents have contributed more than \$4 million toward the renovation.

Even so, the entire cost of the project has not yet been raised. Mark Breseman, Björklunden's director, reported, "Even though construction has started we still want to achieve the \$5 million goal, so active fundraising continues."

Lawrence received Björklunden as a donation from Winifred and Donald Boynton in order to preserve the spirit of "peace and contemplativeness." Thanks to groups such as the Boynton Society, its financial and fundraising bulwark, Björklunden's mile-long coast and 425 acres of land have remained in good condition.

Door County residents have also been invited to share the facilities and contribute to maintenance. It has been home to adult education programs since 1960.



Photo by Jen Cox
Jeff Broxmeyer of fairwisconsin.org gets Emily Saltzman, RLM of the GLOW house, to sign a pledge to vote "NO" on the ballot Nov. 7.

\$15 million donations speeds up campus center plans

Brianna Stapleton
for *The Lawrentian*

This past August, an anonymous donor made a \$15 million donation toward the construction of the new university campus center. This donation is the largest in Lawrence history, beating out the \$8 million gift appropriated to Hiatt Hall.

The significant donation will help accelerate the fundraising timeline for the campus center. The facility will cover 100,000 square feet and will house dining services, a mail room, a

cinema, and offices for student organizations.

Greg Volk, Lawrence's Vice President for Development of External Affairs, commented that this large donation changes everything in the plans for construction of the campus center. "This takes it from a gleam in our eye to something that is much more possible."

According to Volk, the donor wishes that their name be revealed only to "those who absolutely must

See **Donation** on page 4

taken great pains to limit any negative environmental effects of this project."

He adds that plans for the parking lot were specially made to preserve as many trees as possible and that rain gardens will be used to control storm water runoff on the building site.

It is said that a Lawrence student should have the opportunity to visit Björklunden at least once during his or her course of study here. In reality, more than 1,300 students and faculty attended 30 separate week-end programs at Björklunden during the 2005-06 year.

In addition, from April to October there were 27 weeklong classes that boasted a total of around 500 participants.

Door County residents and private organizations also use Björklunden regularly, including the celebrated Door Shakespeare troupe which regularly performs there during July and August.

Construction is expected to be finished by June 1, 2007. Meanwhile, it should have no effect upon student groups who are planned to visit during construction.

Steppes Away: A Lawrentian’s Siberia

Siberia’s bright blue eye

Adam Berey
Staff Writer

Ask most Russians to name their most famous natural landmark and they’ll struggle to give you a single answer.

There are many beautiful sights throughout this enormous country — the Ural and Caucasus Mountains, the volcanoes on the Kamchatka Peninsula, and the waters of the Volga. But most Siberians will tell you that it’s Lake Baikal.

After a month in the area, I finally made it to Baikal last weekend. It’s a wonder I didn’t go sooner, as the lake is only an hour by bus from Irkutsk, my home city this fall.

The spot easiest to reach is Listvyanka, a little village where most of the fishermen moor their boats. At the market there, leather-skinned vendors sell omul and kharius, fish found only in Baikal and like no whitefish you’ve ever tasted, smoky and salty and finger-picked straight off the bone.

Nearby at the Baikal Limnological Institute — now a museum — they recite the statistics that make Baikal a natural wonder.

More than one mile deep — the deepest in the world — and covering an area larger than Belgium, Baikal’s six trillion gallons are more than one-fifth of all the freshwater on the earth.

On top of that, more than half of the plant and animal species in Baikal don’t live anywhere else, having developed uniquely during the lake’s 20 million year history — it’s also the oldest lake on the planet. Add that it’s clean enough to drink out of and you have one impressive puddle.

Outside of Russia, the “Blue Eye of Siberia” is famous mostly because of these little did-you-knows. But what makes Baikal worth visiting for the many Russian and occasional European visitors here isn’t num-

bers. They’re here for the view, and for the immensity of the place.

And it’s not just the water that amazes them. Sure, for a frozen, mostly landlocked country, that much water is rare. But don’t think that this is anything like an afternoon on Lake Michigan.

For one thing, the opposite shore is always visible, with mountains rising into the crisp air. On nearby peaks, one spots poles of prayer flags and stone piles built by Buryat shamans, the native people of this part of Siberia.

Saturday took me to Olkhon, the largest island on the lake. The village there, Khuzhir, looks like nothing has changed in the last 50 years. The harbor’s only two boats wear a few decades of rust, and the villagers live in the old frontier-style houses that I’ve seen even in cities here, like Lincoln Log cabins with a few ornamental carvings around the windows.

A couple of families on Olkhon run hostels, offering a room and meals for about \$10 a day. There’s electricity, but no plumbing. For a bath you’ll have to go to a banya, a traditional bathhouse where Russians shower themselves with pail after pail of fire-heated water

and, occasionally, hit each other with heavy birch sticks for a little deep tissue massage.

You won’t find much for groceries out there, either, but Baikal has its own specialties. Olkhonians use bonfires to smoke omul or cook it in a cauldron of ukha soup. They also have their own blend of herbal tea from leaves and twigs gathered around the island.

But the most amazing thing there is the view. Minibuses take tourists along Olkhon’s coast, where the island’s grassy steppe falls off into the lake in massive cliffs. Rising hundreds of feet out of the water and red with lichen, there’s some resemblance to the Oregon coast, except that instead of being thrilled by the chaos of crashing waves, there is a rush from the silent rocks beneath you and resilient mountains stretching seemingly endlessly in both directions on the opposite shore.

This lake and the land around it have endured, barely settled by humans, for millions of years, through empires, wars and revolutions. Like an old Siberian grandfather, Baikal gives calm reassurance of the earth’s eternity, a standing relic of the planet’s endless past.



Photo courtesy of Adam Berey
The deepest lake in the world, Baikal is one of Russia’s major natural treasures.

Magic gathers at Lawrence University

Meghan McCallum
Features Editor

When students approach head of Magic Club Corin Howland, they often ask him if the club practices or learns magic tricks. The thought is quite enticing — after all, Houdini might have rubbed off on some of us living here in Appleton.

In reality, Magic Club entails different, though just as exciting, activities. “It’s actually the card game Magic: The Gathering,” Howland explains.

“I’ve been basically running it for about two years now, but until now



Image courtesy of magicthegathering.com
Serra Angel, an iconic card from the history of Magic: the Gathering.

we didn’t really realize that LUCC could fund us, and now we’ve got LUCC money,” Howland points out.

“Another difference is that it’s now open to all Lawrentians instead of invite only.”

A sign in the Union describes Magic: The Gathering as a “fantasy trading card game full of mystery, intrigue and imagination.”

“This makes it sound like we’re playing make-believe or something,” says Howland. “It’s really not — it’s about strategy. It’s a lot like chess or any other respectable nerdy game.”

Howland explains that Magic is a trading card game, but its importance lies in being a game of strategy. “There’s a lot of strategy that goes in to choosing which cards you’ll put into a given deck and how they work together.”

The other part of strategy in playing Magic is reacting to opponents’ decks, he says. “You don’t necessarily know what your opponent’s resources are when you start the game, which makes it a lot more reactive.”

People are attracted to the game for different reasons, however. While the strategy aspect pulls in a lot of interest, Howland says, “Some people are more interested in the imaginary world that surrounds it.”

The club includes about 20 members, who meet Saturdays at 1 p.m. in Riverview

Lounge. To anyone interested in joining, Howland says, “You can bring any cards that you’d like to play with or trade.”

Not to worry if you don’t have your own cards — he assures that there will be enough to borrow if needed.

At meetings, says Howland, “You can learn to play if you’ve never played before, or you can just hang out and chat or trade cards.”

As for experience, Howland says it varies within the group. “Some members have collections that stretch back ten years, to the beginning of Magic.”

This year, the club plans to take advantage of its funding from LUCC by both hosting tournaments and participating in tournaments statewide.

Artist/Athlete Spotlight: Coach Korey Krueger

Korey Krueger, head baseball coach at Lawrence University, will be releasing his hip-hop album entitled “The Natural” this Saturday at the Underground Coffeehouse in the Union. I sat down with Coach Krueger, a.k.a. Rex, for a special Artist/Athlete Spotlight.

Where are you from and what do you do here at Lawrence?

I am from Appleton, WI. Born and raised right here. If you are wondering why I fell in love with hip-hop, check out the track entitled “To Brooklyn” on the album! Currently, I am the head baseball coach and equipment manager in the athletic department.

When and how did you start writing and performing?

When I was 12 I went to a rock concert, a group called Autograph. They played five songs! I paid \$10 for the ticket! On top of that, they were all in makeup with bad hair and ridiculous clothes.

I went home and listened to a mix tape my sister brought home from college. It was “Jam On It” by the group Nucleus. I never looked

back. I started doing my own stuff that night ... and unfortunately for everyone in my neighborhood and at school, I did it often.

Are there any artists or performers who you consider to be particularly inspirational?

The emcees Rakim, Big Daddy Kane, Busta Rhymes, and the groups EPMD, Tribe, De La Soul, and Gangstarr from the past. Today, I love Mos Def, Talib, and still Busta Rhymes — he never gets old. Also Tim Spurgin and Mark Dintenfass.

What is your most memorable performance?

At the 1997 Celebrate!, I performed with Dane Richeson and the Sambistas. I will never forget the look on former president Rik Warch’s face when he saw his admissions officer on the mike!

How does coaching at Lawrence, or baseball as a sport itself, compliment your music?

Well, with this album ... we called it “The Natural;” we were trying to capture the idea that the character from Bernard

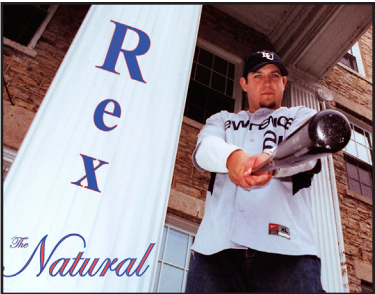


Photo courtesy of Korey Krueger

Malamud’s book was away from the game for one reason or another. He came back because he was meant to play ball.

I am not saying I was meant to rap, but I did take a while away from the game of hip-hop. I last recorded in 1998. This album took us two years to finish, mostly because of work and family, but I have loved every minute of working

on the project. I had a lot of help from the Lawrence community and that meant a lot to me.

What should people expect to hear on your upcoming album?

It is a diverse album. There is a little bit of everything on it. I don’t like to say I’m old school, but it does have a lot of flavor from the way hip-hop used to be. The focus is on the lyrics and not on cars, women or bling. My 1996 Saab does seem like it has spinning rims though ... or maybe it is just ‘cause the breaks don’t work and it seems like they are still going.

What makes up the primary subject matter of your lyrics? Does baseball permeate that level of your music too?

There is a lot of baseball, but there is a lot of life too. I try to be

funny and witty. What else can a kid from Appleton write about!? I have yet to participate in a drive by. But there are fundamental things I like to talk about, like the town of Menasha, for example.

What do you hope to accomplish through your music? Future plans?

I feel like I accomplished a lot finishing this album. I have wanted to do this since I was a young b-boy break dancing at Erb Park. I hope no one has film of those days. Not sure if there really is a big next. I do know I would like to perform as time permits and we’ll see where that goes. My next major goal is to win the MWC with the baseball team this year!

If you could have a freestyle battle with anyone, who would it be?

Probably senior Ken Alvord. If you are gonna do hip-hop at LU, you gotta be able to compete with him. If not, you might as well quit. I would also like to freestyle against Rakim, but I would get caught listening to him and lose badly. He is one of the best in the world.

What do you DO all day?

Roman Brusovankin: World traveler settles in Trever

April West
Staff Writer

Aside from his position as Trever RHD, Roman Brusovankin also works in Raymond House 12 hours a week as the Residence Life Leadership Coordinator. He helps organize conferences, maintains the website, and works with the LUCC Residence Life Committee. His main project right now is Hall Council.



In his free time, Brusovankin enjoys reading and watching movies. “I’ve been watching a lot of the 2006 poker championships lately, and I like to play Ultimate Frisbee with the kids on Saturdays. It’s cool because a lot of the kids in Trever are into it.”

Roman lived in Russia until he was 18 and then attended Boston University, graduating in 2002 with a degree in molecular biology and biochemistry.

One interesting aspect of Roman’s college years is that he did extensive sexual neurology

research on ferrets. He was also an RA for two years in a dorm of about 900.

After college Brusovankin worked for three years in the Japanese Exchange Teaching program. He lived in a small town in northern Japan called Akita that was bombed heavily during World War II, so “there weren’t many people between the ages of 18 and 50”.

His final year he was the prefecture, or overseer, of all the new English teachers in training. This job was similar to being an RHD, but rather than being in charge of a building he was in charge of a large residence area.

“You would be on call and have to drive six hours to go help someone. It is a job that requires you to be part counselor, part teacher and part director. It was a cool program because there were 100 of us from 13 different countries. You get to make lifelong friendships with people from all around the world.”

Roman jokes that another of the perks was that “I was the first person from school to make 3 million right off the bat ...yen that is.”



Photo by Nick Olson
Roman Brusovankin takes pride in Trever; his new home.

He also fondly remembers, “One of the coolest jobs I had while in Japan was teaching a mentally and physically handicapped elementary school class. Definitely one of the coolest job experiences that I’ve had.”

While Brusovankin was in Japan he traveled to other countries in the area, such as Cambodia and Thailand, because it was cheaper to travel there than it was to travel around Japan. He also traveled to France, England and Israel in his college years.

About his position as Trever RHD, Roman says, “Our job here isn’t to chase people down that have beer, but to help build a community — ultimately to create a home away from home. Helping people build community is very important to me.”

Brusovankin feels the small size of the school leads to a larger sense of cohesiveness. “People here are very chill and nice. I like being able to get to know a large percentage of the people. It will be different, but I’m looking forward to it.”

International Insights

Peru: A country of mixed cultures

Valeria Rojas
For The Lawrentian

While I was backpacking in Europe this summer, people always guessed that I was from Brazil or Colombia. Then, after naming all the countries of Latin America, they would give up and I would tell them that I was from Peru. Their response was usually, “Really?! Peru ... Machu Picchu!”

It was disappointing that Machu Picchu was all they knew about my country. Don’t get me wrong — Machu Picchu is a breathtaking monument. It is part of our Incan heritage and makes us proud to be Peruvians, but Peru is much more than Machu Picchu.

The Incan Empire was large and covered parts of what are currently Chile, Argentina, Bolivia and Ecuador. The empire was formed by many different tribes, each with their own language and traditions, which the Incas conquered and assimilated.

When the Spanish came and mixed with the tribes, our traditional culture changed to incorporate the new customs and a new language: Spanish. The Spaniards put the indigenous people to work on the sugar plantations, and they started to die.

The Spanish decided to bring slaves from Africa to work the fields instead. As a result, Africans in Peru enriched our culture, blend-

ing with the existing cultures to create a new dance and music style called festejo.

Later on, there was a migration of Chinese and Japanese people to Peru, and the mixing of food styles created a form of Chinese food unique from all over the world.

All these different cultures and races meet up in one country and have made Peruvian culture quite original. Maybe this is the reason why it was not strange to us to have a president whose last name was Fujimori!

Peru is a country of mountains, vast deserts and immense rainforests, and has an incredibly rich fauna and flora. The country has many different climates throughout. There are more than 1,000 kinds of birds and 25,000 different types of plants and flowers. Our sea is one of the richest seas in the world and has approximately 1,200 fish species.

Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable lake in the world, is situated in the Department Peru, and the Amazon River wanders through the jungles of the Department of Loreto. The Cordillera Blanca, located in the highlands, has snow-covered mountains over 6,000 feet tall.

Since the 1980s there has been a migrating trend from the rural areas to Lima, the capital. This trend increased dramatically with a period of terrorism in Peru. People

left everything they had and came to the city looking for protection and a better quality of life.

Unfortunately, Lima was not prepared to receive these massive amounts of people. It was hard for these people to find jobs that could sustain their families and satisfy their basic needs.

The gap between rich and poor enlarged. That is how one can see in Lima rich neighborhoods next to shantytowns. Even though migration rates are not as high as in the past, people still migrate. Now as before, people see Lima as the land of opportunities in which they and their children will have access to a better future.

Peru is like a poor man sitting on a chair made of gold. Peruvians have many things to be proud of: an Incan heritage, diverse climates that produce beautiful landscapes, and food and traditions that are the product of different cultures that came from far away.

However, there is still too much economic and social inequality. How could Peru exploit all these qualities to its advantage? I think that tourism could be a possible solution for this problem. It would create new jobs all over the country, which would help to lower the rates of migration. By creating jobs in the less-developed areas, tourism would improve the economy and importance of these areas in the rest of the country.

New professors take campus by storm

Justin Berkowitz
For The Lawrentian

This is the first in a series of articles introducing new professors on campus. Look for more in future issues!

As the new school year begins at Lawrence, there are approximately 430 students setting foot onto this campus for the first time.

While not as numerous, there are roughly 12 new professors on campus — each bringing their own unique experience to Lawrence.

One of these new professors is Megan Pickett, Associate Professor of Physics, focusing on astronomy. A graduate of Cornell University in New York, she completed her master’s and doctoral work at Indiana University Bloomington.

Following her studies, Pickett worked for NASA for four years and went on to teach at Valparaiso University and Purdue University Calumet before coming to Lawrence.

Pickett was initially drawn to Lawrence based on her own experience with liberal arts colleges.

“I grew up around liberal arts colleges — my father was a university administrator and eventually president of a college — and so I have always wanted to teach at one,” she says.

Her interest in astronomy was brought about in her preteen years after a visit to the library. “When I was 12, I checked out a book from the school library on the constellations,” Pickett explains. “The book was H.A. Rey’s “The Stars: A New Way to See Them.” The night I finished the book, I went outside into the snow and looked up, and for the first time, I could actually see the constellations. I decided that night I wanted to be an astronomer.”

Looking back at her college experience, Pickett remembers meeting her future ex-spouse and throwing up in her freshman seminar on Cold War politics. She blames this incident on nerves, the flu and 51 hours of working on two separate papers.

Another professor new to Lawrence is Jake Frederick, Assistant Professor of History with a focus on Mexican and Latino history.

Frederick received his undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts and his doctorate from Penn State.

“[Teaching] beats working for a living,” said Frederick on why he chose to become a professor. “I get to hoot and holler and people have to listen.”

A large part of Frederick choosing to work at Lawrence was the unorthodox interview he had here. “I was just myself and they seemed to

like who I was, which seemed important,” he explains.

Frederick says most of his college memories include “going around and goofing off with my friends.”

So far, Frederick likes Appleton and the Lawrence community, claiming to have learned more here in 10 days than in his entire life.

Elizabeth Carlson, Assistant Professor of Art and Art History, comes to Lawrence fresh from her graduate studies at the University of Minnesota, which followed her undergraduate studies at the University of Cincinnati.

Initially, Carlson didn’t want to go into teaching, but fell into it during grad school. “I started as a teaching assistant at the University of Minnesota and realized that it was what I love to do,” she says.

Despite beginning her teaching career as a T.A. at a large school, Carlson was drawn toward a small liberal arts college for several reasons.

“I like teaching at a small school because I liked the idea of knowing my students,” she said. “A smaller

environment allows students an opportunity to be more comfortable, ask more questions and learn more.”

“Learning the Lawrence student is a challenge,” she said on her impressions thus far. “I am still trying to figure out who

my students are, what they want to learn and how they want to learn it.”

Carlson’s favorite college memories include an early film course she took and meeting her husband in art history class.

While all three of these new professors are still adjusting to life at Lawrence, they all say that they feel the Lawrence community has warmly embraced them.



Photo courtesy www.lawrence.edu
Megan Pickett, Associate Professor of Physics.



Photo courtesy www.lawrence.edu
Jake Frederick, Assistant Professor of History.



Photo courtesy www.lawrence.edu
Elizabeth Carlson, Assistant Professor of Art and Art History.

Guest Editorial

Higher education reforms will harm, not help

Robert Maas
SLA President

The Secretary of Education’s Commission on the Future of Higher Education’s proposals for the reform of postsecondary education are proclaimed by their advocates as changing the face of higher education to meet the ever-changing needs of the modern “knowledge” economy.

They wish to make all measurable data known to the public at large via a database containing all relevant information for deciding which colleges and universities prospective students should take into account, including relations between academic success and workplace success.

Furthermore, academic success would be measured by at least one, and perhaps a number of standardized tests. And on top of the creation of a huge, sprawling bureaucratic mess to ensure that college students throughout America do what they should be doing in college anyway, they will also work to reduce the tuition payments of college students by increasing Pell and other student grants, especially need-based aid.

These reforms, as currently advertised, will almost certainly be bad for colleges as a whole.

The creation of the database itself will create a large new bureaucracy within the federal government, and a great deal more work in the back offices of colleges and universities. Suddenly, much more data will need to be tracked by colleges in order to report them to the federal government.

Tracking the data takes resources — namely money and time — which cannot be used elsewhere, such as improving the quality of education,

investments in new structures, infrastructure and student groups, hiring and keeping professors, and other such requirements.

If the information requirements are anything akin to those of the No Child Left Behind, almost all colleges will need to hire new back office staff or else pay all their current staff overtime.

All this requires money to be paid to the people doing the actual work, and despite protests to the contrary, at a time when the budget deficit is large, the national debt is growing, and tax cuts are the political order of the day, it would be foolish to expect any increase in government funding to make up the difference until such funding has been signed into law.

Thus, most of the funding will come from students, either out of pocket or in the form of new student loans.

Furthermore, the introduction of the exam itself will reduce the amount of time available for classes, as some amount of time will now need to be set aside for taking the exam, which will require an expansion of the academic year, or else a commensurate shrinking of the time students will spend studying their majors at college.

The gravest danger, however, is twofold: an increasing uniformity across diverse colleges and universities within the United States, and a drive to turn education into a synonym for job training.

Whether they turn to a single standardized exam, or several different exams, it is nearly certain that lower performing colleges will make efforts to copy those features that the better performing colleges have, regardless of whether they will work

for the institutional setting of the other college.

Likewise, because the database connects workplace performance and academic performance, the places most likely to do well are those that specialize in whatever employment field requires the most workers at the time one looks up the list, rather than those colleges which provide people to learn their jobs well once they are on the job.

Also, workplaces are likely to prefer someone who can do one job immediately, rather than those who can do any job well after a weeks or months of training, because it costs employers less. It’s another cost of business that corporations can externalize.

Therefore, it is likely that narrow, concentrated fields which are no more than job training courses would feature the best employability at one stage or another. Thus, many colleges will work hard to make themselves over as vehicles for employment in certain sectors and fields, rather than a broad ranging, mind enlarging experiences that will serve them well regardless of which field they go into.

Instead of a place where a person can learn to learn and love to learn, colleges will increasingly become technical schools where people learn to do the job of the present in the future, no love necessary.

This is not to say that some reforms, especially bringing down the cost of college, are not necessary. However, the Bush Administration’s proposed reforms will increase the cost of broad liberal education, and lead American education to narrower and narrower paths. It is a road best left untraveled.

will not be broken until all monies are raised, and such a large gift not only jumpstarts the funding, it attracts other gifts.”

Nathan Litt, another member of the planning committee, hopes that this large donation will continue to encourage others to give to the project. “The \$15 million was the catalyst,” said the junior. “We should break ground this coming spring upon approval from the Board of Trustees.”

These extra efforts are needed especially at this juncture. “Construction costs have escalated quite a bit since we started planning the campus center,” said Volk. Originally, the center was estimated to cost approximately \$29 million, but that number has now risen to \$31.7 million.

Paul Shrode, Associate Dean of Students for Campus Activities, comments, “A new campus center has been a need at Lawrence for many years and I have participated in planning efforts several times toward that end. A gift of this nature is a strong endorsement of the need for such a building.”

Shrode, who is also a member of

the planning committee, adds, “This building is truly a dream come true, and with this generous gift, is much closer to reality.”

The Campus Center Planning Committee has a lot of work ahead of them for 2006-07 academic year. They will work on finalizing the specifics for the interior and exterior of the building, such as selecting comfortable furniture for the student programming level.

Litt encourages students to get involved in the process. “Students, faculty and staff should look for announcements regarding input and listening sessions, where committee members will solicit thoughts and ideas from the Lawrence community.”

One of the fundamental parts of the planning process is engaging the students, as that is the group that will be utilizing the campus center most.

“I believe that it is important for the committee to involve the student body as much as possible in the planning process,” said Litt. “And so far, I feel that the Campus Center Planning Committee has done a good job of doing so.”

Column Contest Entries

A phallic
phirst phoiled

Submitted by
Columnist 1

Advancements in science, specifically in the medical field, are continually improving collective humanity’s quality of life. Cures, vaccines and more frivolous, yet useful to an extent, cosmetic surgeries touch billions of lives everyday. What happens, though, when medical capabilities progress so far that they affect our sentimentality and deepest emotions? Consider this true story.

In September of 2005, a Chinese man made history by accepting and then declining an entirely unique donation. In an unprecedented procedure, the 44-year-old became the first person to have a male sex organ, donated courtesy of the parents of a brain dead 22-year-old, surgically attached to his body.

This history-making recipient established his eligibility for the procedure, amongst an understandably minuscule field of candidates, after a truly horrific accident left him unable to urinate while standing or engage in intercourse.

With his symbolic manhood completely stripped and his literal manhood reduced to approximately one centimeter, he was, needless to say, more than a little intrigued about the prospect of his involvement in the transplant surgery.

Yet after a flawlessly executed 15-hour surgery and successful recovery period, the recipient and his wife asked to have the donated member removed, citing emotional distress as their motive.

The procedure itself seems to be analogous to a 44-year-old’s penis. They’re both nice to have, but, in an emotionally detached sense, not entirely necessary. This is especially so in China, where the population is more actively controlled than any other country. A 44-year-old Chinese man has probably closed up shop on his gene-spreading days, and is probably more focused on sexual recreation rather than procreation.

Considering all the medical catastrophes plaguing humanity, the penis transplant seems on par with the seedless watermelon: impressive but not exactly Nobel worthy. The most profound aspect of the surgery was the production of the first penis recipient not tied to a euphemism.

Perhaps the most surprising aspect of the story is the decision to have the foreign member removed. Emotional stress, which motivated the ultimate removal of the first hand transplant, is not uncommon in such procedures. It is obvious to note though, that the absence of one hand would probably not cause the same amount of marital strain as the penile recipient’s condition.

For me, the agreement between husband and wife to have the transplanted organ removed epitomizes a very compelling example of the ability of love to transcend major deficiencies in the corporeal realm.

This story should serve as an illustration of mankind’s tendency to overlook side effects and byproducts, be they emotional, environmental, or spiritual, in favor of apparent improvement. We must consider everything before forging ahead.

Memoirs of a
Dining Services
worker

Submitted by
Columnist 2

Did you know bright sunlight attracts outgoing, fun and confident individuals? The shadowed or dimly lit areas of a dining room will attract shy, more reserved types.

Many years at LU have shown me the transformation (as a caterpillar in a cocoon emerging as a butterfly) of students arriving as freshmen and *continuing through the chrysalis stage*, transferring from one area of the dining room to another.

This says a lot about education at Lawrence University: growing up and finding oneself.

Who do we find in the bright sunlight this time but “Matty” and his sidekick (I’ll call him “Clancy”) speaking in the Irish brogue. At first I had thought they were from the theatrical department.

Then, I started noticing a “Conservatory Rush” a bit later into the lunch period. These two guys, along with many other “Cons” would rush over to Lucy’s from across campus to enjoy the “sunlit atmosphere,” not to mention the delicious food cooked and served by our staff.

No, Matty and Clancy were not from the theatrical segment of campus, and here is how I found out.

One day, Matty came in and there was a big irritating-looking ring around his lips. I said, “It must be very cold outside. Your lips seem chapped.”

He explained his upcoming recital was scheduled and he had “been practicing.”

By the way, did you know tuba players are supposed to be good kissers? I had read it in a newspaper column. Anyway, I started to see many students with “marks of their trade” around campus. One little gal was a student worker with us at Lucy’s. She had a permanent “hickey” on her neck from her violin.

I had calloused fingertips when I used to play guitar. I was not half bad at it. I know what it is like to have a passion and be able to express it. What I was lacking at the time was true dedication. At Lawrence University, many students work, study and practice — full-time plus — toward their passion. That’s dedication!

I would like to share with you some tidbits about the religious studies major, the graduate with honors, who was accepted at Harvard; a surgeon who had at one time rolled cutlery for us; a chemistry major with a vocal performance minor and many other folks I have encountered during my time as a dining service worker here at LU.



Donation

continued from page 1

know.”

Volk notes that it takes a long time to secure such a monumental gift, and that developing relationships with donors is fundamental to the process. “Really large major gifts evolve over a period of years. The better a donor knows Lawrence, the better our chances for greater support.”

If the donor wishes, he or she can claim the naming rights for the building. “Naming rights come when you give essentially half of the construction costs,” Volk stated. There is no news yet if the anonymous donor will choose to name the campus center.

The donation also inspires efforts in others. When the donation was announced to the Trustees this past summer, they became much more committed to fundraising efforts and made the campus center their number one priority.

Campus Center Planning Committee member and Professor of Music Ken Bozeman notes, “Ground

Column Contest Ballot

Whose column would you like to see regularly in *The Lawrentian*? Check a box and submit this ballot to the *Lawrentian* suggestion box in the library by Wednesday, Oct. 11.

☐

Columnist 1

☐

Columnist 2

Comments: _____

STAFF EDITORIAL

Practice space is growing priority

“There aren't enough practice rooms” is certainly not a new phrase to most Conservatory students at Lawrence. Finding practice space during peak hours has always been a problem, but until this year it has been manageable and fairly low on priority lists.

Suddenly, however, the “peak practice times” are becoming more and more frequent, resulting in an almost constant battle for even the smallest of practice spaces.

It is increasingly rare for a student to find a room right away; musicians are often seen circling the Con basement like hawks, waiting to pounce on whatever space opens up first.

Getting in a quick warm-up before a lesson or ensemble rehearsal is nearly impossible, since at least 15 minutes are taken up simply waiting for a room.

Why is this problem so prevalent this year? For starters, there are more music majors than ever in the Conservatory, at 365. Record numbers of freshmen were accepted, and more and more students are choosing to participate in music as an extracurricular activity.

In addition, several practice spaces have been converted into offices for faculty and staff, bringing the number of available practice rooms down to a mere 38.

Several significant problems could result from the lack of practice space in the Con. For example, students will be more inclined to bring their instruments to dorms and practice in their rooms.

As lovely as music can be, neighbors and roommates would certainly not appreciate hearing violin scales while trying to study or sleep. In addition, expensive instruments are more likely to be damaged or even stolen if they are not always locked up in the same place.

What can be done about this frustrating and growing problem? First, students should voice their concerns to the Dean's Advisory Council, a student-led panel that meets to address the needs of Lawrentians in the Conservatory. The more complaints they receive and pass on to the Dean, the more quickly the problem will be addressed.

Although an addition to the conservatory would be the ideal solution, there are many other building projects that will come first, namely the campus center. In the meantime, a reevaluation of available space in the Con is necessary and should be performed as soon as possible.

Any unused or rarely used space should be made available to students for practicing, and perhaps minimally invasive remodeling projects can be planned for the coming years.

Residence halls could also designate certain practice areas; as it stands, Plantz is the only dorm with designated space for practicing.

A lack of practice space in the Conservatory has just climbed several notches on Lawrence's priority list, and the problem needs to be voiced and addressed sooner rather than later. Creative solutions will need to be explored to keep the quality of Lawrence's music programs high.

Wanted:

Passionate and Opinionated Writers

If you're politically active, interested in current events, and want to say what you think, consider writing for Point-Counterpoint. This is a weekly forum for writers to debate a current controversial issue either in the news or related to life at Lawrence.

Next week's topic is the political movement to introduce standardized testing at universities. If you'd like to write on this, e-mail lawrentian@lawrence.edu with the subject heading "Point-Counterpoint."

The opinions expressed in these editorials are those of the students, faculty, and community members who submitted them. All facts are as provided by the authors. *The Lawrentian* does not endorse any opinions piece except for the staff editorial, which represents a majority of the editorial board. *The Lawrentian* welcomes everyone to submit their own opinions using the parameters outlined in the masthead.

PHOTO POLL :

What would you name the new campus center?

“The Best Way to Spend Millions and Millions of Dollars.”
-Bethany Kondiles



“The Alexander C. Willey Memorial Booberific Pornatorium.”
-Ben Willard

“W-A-S-T-E: Where All the Stinkin' Taxes arE.”
-Matt Sennewald & Teresa Hardison



“NOT The Mudd.”
-Claire Shinnors

“The Upper Commons ... because it is better than Downer.”
-Celine Kitzenberg



“Beck's Hall of Greatness.”
-Chris McGeorge

Photo poll by Christine Beaderstadt.



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Editorial policy is determined by the editor. Any opinions which appear unsigned are those of the majority of *The Lawrentian's* editorial board.

Letters to the editor are welcome and encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit for style and space. Letters must be e-mailed to: lawrentian@lawrence.edu. Submissions by e-mail should be text attachments.

—All submissions to the editorials page must be turned in to *The Lawrentian* no later than 5 p.m. on the Monday before publication.

—All submissions to the editorials page must be accompanied by a phone number at which the author can be contacted. **Articles submitted without a contact number will not be published.**

—*The Lawrentian* reserves the right to print any submissions received after the above deadline and to edit each submission for clarity, decency, and grammar.

—**Letters to the editor should not be more than 350 words,** and will be edited for clarity, decency, and grammar.

—Guest editorials may be arranged by contacting the editor in chief or the editorials editor in advance of the publishing date.

SoundBoard features Beneke Distinctivenonetvisits

Elena Amesbury
Staff Writer

Tom Beneke, the winner of LU Live, was featured Sunday in this year's second installment of SoundBoard. SoundBoard kicked off two weeks ago with Mark Johnson hosting.

Skyler Silvertrust and now-graduated Paul Solomon brought SoundBoard to campus last year, an idea which musician Jon Brion conceived and still continues in Los Angeles.

SoundBoard's goal, as projected by Silvertrust, is to have a "weekly place, kind of like Jazz night, where musicians rather than bands can collaborate."

Sophomore Christie McCowen, an attendee of Sunday's SoundBoard, commented, "It's great how it acts as stable programming for the musicians on campus."

For the uninitiated, in each weekly SoundBoard, a musician from campus — either student or alumnus — plays onstage at the coffeehouse for about an hour. Usually the musician will have a set to play, but occasionally they will take requests

from the audience.

Often other musicians are "randomly" pulled from the audience to play a song with the host. For example, during the inaugural performance, Mark Johnson sang "Baby You Can Drive My Car" with Silvertrust, Julie DeBoer and Patrick Ehlers.

Sunday's musician, Tom Beneke, won LU Live, Lawrence's annual talent competition. Silvertrust heard him play and worked to get him on

SoundBoard.

Beneke's bluesy slide guitar style set was peppered with songs from artists such as Robert Johnson, Harry Davis and Sarah Armour.

Beneke is especially talented at "taking lyrics from other songs and writing a new song around the lyrics. It's taking something old and making it new," said McCowen.

The typical atmosphere at SoundBoard is laid back, and in attendance are the usual bunch of regulars and the mandatory friends of the performer.

Because the venue serves beverages and is right downstairs from the grill, it is easy to grab something to munch on, sit back and listen. Homework is not discouraged.

SoundBoard "regular" Sarah Page enjoys the event because "it's nice to see talented musicians from school."

Next week's guest will be one of the founders of SoundBoard, alumnus Paul Solomon.

For more information about performing in or lending a hand with SoundBoard, contact Skyler Silvertrust at skyler.j.silvertrust@lawrence.edu.



Photo by Blair Allen
Tom Beneke serves up his bluesy style in the weekly coffeehouse event.

Amelia Perron
Staff Writer

Saturday night will bring the first Artist Series concert of the 2006-07 season when the Czech Nonet performs in the Lawrence University Memorial Chapel.

The nonet, one of the oldest chamber groups still performing, was founded in 1924 by a group of students at the Prague Conservatory.

While many chamber groups fit typical instrumentations — string quartets, piano trios — and have an overwhelming repertoire of music to choose from, the nonet was formed with one piece in mind: the Spohr Nonet.

The piece called for the unique combination of violin, viola, cello, bass, flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon and French horn. The subsequent ensemble remains the same today.

The collection of instruments offers many possibilities. "They play a lot of Czech music, and a lot of the larger chamber works from the early 19th century, like the Schubert Octet and the Beethoven Septet," says Lawrence viola professor Matthew Michelic.

"But they also play many contemporary pieces. A number of composers have been inspired to write works for the group. It's a varied repertoire."

The group finds ways to extend

the possibilities even further with transcriptions and smaller groupings. "For example," says Michelic, "On this program there's a serenade, originally for winds, that they transcribed for winds and strings. Or sometimes they'll break down into smaller groups; for example, the Roussel Trio they will be doing."

Despite the distance between Prague and Appleton, the Nonet has a significant connection with Lawrence in violist Jan Nykryn. Nykryn was an exchange student at Menasha High School in the early '90s, when he was 17.

While in Wisconsin, he studied viola with Michelic. "He was a very good viola player even then," says Michelic. "He was active in the youth orchestra, played as a soloist with the Fox Valley Youth Symphony, and even gave a full recital while he was here."

Nykryn and his colleagues have continued to do well. The nonet has released a number of highly acclaimed recordings and is "a joy to listen to," according to Michelic. "They have an amazing blend of sound. It's a refined, aristocratic type of music-making."

The concert will be Saturday, Oct. 7 at 8 p.m. in the Memorial Chapel. Tickets are \$15-22 and available through the Lawrence box office. Nykryn will be giving a master class the same day at 2:30 p.m. in the chapel.



LOCOS POR JUANA

On Wednesday Oct. 4, Locos Por Juana brought their internationally acclaimed live show to Riverview Lounge. ¡VIVA!, Lawrence's Hispanic student organization, hosted the group that has received awards and recognition from BBC, Billboard Magazine and MTV Español. The group even received a Latin Grammy for best rock album in 1995.





Cursive live at the Pabst

Paul Karner
Rock Columnist

Sipping on a glass of what appeared to be straight whiskey — no ice — Tim Kasher, front man guitarist of Cursive, led the audience through a staggering set of grip-pingly off-kilter rock songs at the Pabst Theatre on Sept. 24.

Kasher's homely stage presence and swaggering vocals were reminiscent of Cursive's self-deprecating side. However, the performance revealed a band with a newfound appreciation for the success they've found.

The show began with a free improvisation with Kasher noodling around on a heavily filtered guitar and guitarist Ted Stevens accompanying on a clarinet. The piece that lasted all but two minutes seemed to draw the audience's attention to a new forward-looking Tim Kasher.

The short improv eventually led into "Art is Hard" from the album "The Ugly Organ" (2003, Saddle Creek). The song is an anthem for the self-aware masochistic Kasher that serviced as a satirical theme on Cursive's previous record.

As the show progressed, however, the band's performance proved to be more focused and dynamic than ever. Some new songs were a bit reminiscent of Kasher's solo albums — released under the name The Good Life — with their exploration into more diverse sounds.

Songs like the ethereal "Bad Sects" and the noisy folk song "Rise Up! Rise Up!" showed that Cursive has grown more confident in honing their diverse musical aesthetics.

The recently released "Happy Hollow" (2006, Saddle Creek) shows a significant step forward for Cursive. Where "The Ugly Organ" was filled with self-deprecating songs almost undercutting Kasher's more poignant lyrical moments, "Happy Hollow" is a more candid work, exploring, among other things, religion and complacency in its different manifestations.

The band has moved past Kasher's self-critical leanings in order to allow his poignant imagery stinging metaphors to take the forefront. Images of a preoccupied God, pedophilic preachers, and looming steeples play into a harsh picture of small-town America.

The abrasive horn arrangements on the new album fit remarkably well into Cursive's already rough sound, while adding a menacing, almost sardonic campiness to certain songs.

All in all, Cursive has managed to take their rampant aesthetics and hone them into a more mature artistic effort.

Nonetheless, "Mothership, Mothership, Do You Read Me?" from their 2001 EP "Burst and Bloom" was a highlight of the show at the Pabst, reminding the crowd that there is only one band that could pull off precisely gauche songs with the intensity of four angry drunks from Omaha.

Still unable to escape his anti-rock star persona, Kasher announced the last song while assuring everyone that they'll be back out in a few minutes to play an encore. Although the band may seem more tenacious with their artistic vision, they still are not ready to leave their humble roots just yet.



Photograph by Raad Fadaak

Students Greg Woodard, Adam Meckler and Ross Caterton take part in the Monday night Jazz Open Jam session in the Underground Coffeehouse.

Fresh hot jazz in the Underground

Alex Schaaf
for The Lawrentian

Every Monday night, the Underground Coffeehouse hosts the "Jazz Open Jam," a tremendous display of student musical talent that is open to everyone.

Anyone who feels the urge can get up on stage and contribute their sound to any of a variety of jazz standards. This past Monday night was an amazing night of improvisation that lasted from 10 until just after midnight, but never once became stale or boring thanks to

the constant change in musicians.

Organizer Greg Woodard, a junior piano major with an emphasis in jazz, was part of the first group. "We usually start off with a set group, then anyone who wants to can come up and sit in on a song or two," said Woodard.

The night started off with Woodard on piano and John Merritt on upright bass. The two were soon joined by senior Derek Dreier on drums. But before the night was over, the original trio was completely replaced and the stage had seen 14 different players.

Several different saxophonists

and trumpet players, along with a guitarist and a trombonist, added to the flavor. Freshmen and upper-classmen alike improvised over the solid foundation laid by the rhythm section.

"This kind of thing keeps us closer as a jazz community here at Lawrence," said Woodard. "It also gives the younger students a chance to play with more experienced musicians and receive positive feedback and encouragement."

While this kind of freedom may seem like it could generate sloppy and unpolished music, the quality of music coming from the basement

of the Union was unrivaled.

"We want to have a high enough quality where we could play this music at clubs," said Woodard, "Because this is the kind of thing that happens at real clubs."

Throughout the night, it was hard to believe that the group of musicians on the stage had not been rehearsing for weeks.

Donation

continued from page 8

Later in the quarter, Illinois College picked off one of Maxam's passes before running back Jon Howard rushed 34 yards to extend the home team's lead to 14.

The persistent Vikings put themselves right back in it to start the fourth quarter with Maxam hitting senior receiver Jake Tewalt for a 54-yard touchdown.

A couple of three-and-outs and an IC missed field goal later, the Vikings found themselves in possession with the game clock winding down.

Lawrence drove 75 yards down the field with big plays by Maxam, Wren, Lark and Tewalt before Aljay Wren put the score at 20-19 with a five-yard run.

With less than two minutes on the clock, the coaches, hoping to play off of the momentum, went for the win with a two-point conversion attempt. The gamble didn't pay off, as Wren's rush attempt and the Vikings came up short.

The heartbreaker leaves the Vikings at the 2-3 mark halfway through their season. The goal of having a winning season for the first time since 1987 — as the players' shirts remind them — is still very much in reach, and the Vikings will look to pull back to .500 when they face Lake Forest (1-4) at the Banta Bowl this Saturday.

Lake Forest's defense is ranked as one of the best in the conference and will surely test the Vikings' passing game.

The game kicks off at 6 p.m., and the lit up Banta Bowl will surely provide an electrifying atmosphere. This will be the first Viking night game in 6 years! Be there!

Kickoff at 6 p.m.; I'll be grilling at 5.



Photo by Carrie Ann Reynolds

Cursive front man Tim Kasher revealed a newfound confidence during the band's set at the Pabst Theater in Milwaukee.

